

to proceedings under these rules of practice.

[42 FR 5358, Jan. 28, 1977]

## **PART 960—RULES RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT IN POSTAL SERVICE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Subpart A—General Provisions**

Sec.

- 960.1 Purpose of these rules.
- 960.2 When the Act applies.
- 960.3 Proceedings covered.
- 960.4 Eligibility of applicants.
- 960.5 Standards for awards.
- 960.6 Allowable fees and expenses.
- 960.7 Rulemaking on maximum rates for attorney fees.
- 960.8 Official authorized to take final action under the Act.

### **Subpart B—Information Required from Applicants**

- 960.9 Contents of application.
- 960.10 Net worth exhibit.
- 960.11 Documentation of fees and expenses.
- 960.12 When an application may be filed.

### **Subpart C—Procedures for Considering Applications**

- 960.13 Filing and service of documents.
- 960.14 Answer to application.
- 960.15 Reply.
- 960.16 Comments by other parties.
- 960.17 Settlement.
- 960.18 Further proceedings.
- 960.19 Decision.
- 960.20 Further Postal Service review.
- 960.21 Judicial review.
- 960.22 Payment of award.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 504 (c)(1); 39 U.S.C. 204, 401 (2).

SOURCE: 46 FR 45945, Sept. 16, 1981, unless otherwise noted.

### **Subpart A—General Provisions**

#### **§ 960.1 Purpose of these rules.**

The Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504 (called “the Act” in this part), provides for the award of attorney fees and other expenses to eligible individuals and entities who are parties to certain administrative proceedings (called “adversary adjudications”) before the Postal Service. An eligible party may receive an award when it prevails over the Postal Service, unless

the Postal Service’s position was substantially justified or special circumstances make an award unjust. The rules in this part describe the parties eligible for awards and the proceedings that are covered. They also explain how to apply for awards, and the procedures and standards that the Postal Service will use to make them.

[46 FR 45945, Sept. 16, 1981, as amended at 52 FR 6797, Mar. 5, 1987]

#### **§ 960.2 When the Act applies.**

The Act applies to any adversary adjudication pending or commenced before the Postal Service on or after August 5, 1985. It also applies to any adversary adjudication commenced on or after October 1, 1984, and finally disposed of before August 5, 1985, provided that an application for fees and expenses, as described in subpart B of these rules, has been filed with the Postal Service within 30 days after August 5, 1985, and to any adversary adjudication pending on or commenced on or after October 1, 1981, in which an application for fees and other expenses was timely filed and was dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

[52 FR 6797, Mar. 5, 1987]

#### **§ 960.3 Proceedings covered.**

(a) The Act applies to adversary adjudications conducted by the Postal Service. These are:

(1) Adjudications under 5 U.S.C. 554 in which the position of the Postal Service is presented by an attorney or other representative who enters an appearance and participates in the proceeding (for the Postal Service, the types of proceedings generally covered are proceedings relative to false representation and cease and desist orders and mailability under chapter 30 of title 39, U.S.C., with the exception of proceedings under 39 U.S.C. 3008); and

(2) Appeals of decisions of contracting officers made pursuant to section 6 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 605) before the Postal Service Board of Contract Appeals as provided in section 8 of that Act. (41 U.S.C. 607).